

(e) The activities proposed under the 'Project Elephant' include:

- (i) Protection of all the viable populations and their habitats.
- (ii) Providing corridors linking different parts of the composite elephant range.
- (iii) Improving the quality of life of the people living in the fringe areas through appropriate eco-development programmes, so that their dependence on forests is minimised.
- (iv) Eradication of weeds like Miconia and Lantana and augmenting the number of fodder trees through appropriate plantation programmes.
- (v) Mitigating the problems being

caused by the isolated populations of elephant to the local people.

- (vi) Compensating people for loss of life and property caused by the elephants.
- (vii) Strengthening of anti-poaching infrastructure.
- (viii) Improved veterinary care and immunisation of domestic live-stock against communicable diseases.
- (ix) Restoring the feeling of compassion towards elephants through Education Campaign and Extension Programmes.
- (x) Scientific research on various aspects of management of elephants and their habitats.

STATEMENT

The estimated population of elephants in India, region-wise is as under:

<i>Name of the Region</i>	<i>Estimated elephants Population</i>
1. North-Eastern Region (West Bengal, Assam, Nagaland Meghalaya, Tripura).	8525 to 11930
2. Orissa and Bihar	2000 to 2300
3. Uttar Pradesh	550 to 700
4. Southern Region (Karnataka Kerala Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh)	6000 to 7150
	17,075 - 22,080

[Translation]

Purchasing of Books

2122. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Kitabon Ki khareed mein niyam tak par" appearing in the daily 'Dainik Jagran' dated February 13, 1992.

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been

conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). According to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi the matter has since been looked into by them and they find that the books are being purchased after adopting proper procedure of purchase.

Medicare Facilities to poor by Private Hospitals

2123. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started any plant to provide free medicare facilities to poor at reasonable cost in Delhi from private institutions in lieu of allotment of land at concessional rates and duty relief given to such institutions to import medical equipment;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of such institutions;

(c) whether Government propose to extend this facility to other cities also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). To ensure that free medicare facilities are provided to the poor patients by such private institutions as have been given land on concessional rate or as have availed of custom duty exemption on import of medical equipments a scheme has been devised to link them with nearby Government hospitals so that the latter can refer poor patients to such institutions. A referral quota amounting to 20% of the case load projected by such private institutions have been determined and each institution attached to a specific Government hospital to enable them to refer poor patients for specialised investigation. A statement showing linkage between Government hospitals and private institutions in Delhi is attached.

(c) and (d). The scheme is being first tried out in Delhi and it will be extended to other States/Union Territories in the light of experience gained in its implementation Delhi.